

BOARD OF CEMETERY TRUSTEES

Minutes of October 17, 2000

Trustees present: Bonnie Clark, chairman, Jane Black, Hughene Hale, and Mary Jane Pierce, Ellen Campbell (Town Selectman Representative), student visitors from John Bapst High School: Lindsay Hawes, Duane Judkins.

1. Meeting called to order at 5:10 p.m. by Chairman Bonnie Clark.
2. The minutes of September 18, 2000 were approved with the following corrections to be made:
 - A. In section 6c – cemetery name change from Hart's Corner to Tomb Road Cemetery and a comma replacing the period in the dollar amount to read \$1,416. (MPJ/HH)

3. OLD BUSINESS:

A. New member search:

1. Joyce Pinkham has agreed to become a new and additional member of the BCT of Holden, Maine.

B. Land acquisition:

Bonnie walked the property on Lower Route 46 with Henry Maynard. The property the BCT is interested in covers 6 acres. Linda M. Stevens is asking \$25,000 flat for the property. Bonnie reports that the property needs a lot of cleaning up in the back. The front is ledge then shale, but the back 4 acres is good land. A few trees would need to be cleared and on the left is a grave pit that is no longer being used. There are steep slopes in the gravel pit that may require some attention. As far as Henry Maynard knows nothing has been buried underground. The BCT would need to ask Bruce to check the land with the backhoe. Permission would need to be given for Bruce to go onto the land to check.

Joel Dearborn still needs to be contacted to see if he is interested in selling his portion of adjacent land to the town.

The town values this property at \$10,800. It was suggested that we offer the \$25,000 less legal fees, survey costs and any other costs involved in checking out the possibilities of using this land as a cemetery.

Bonnie will also contact Jim Mallar about property on the Mann Hill Road – he has about 2 acres that might be good for a cemetery. She will find out if he is interested in selling the land to the town.

4. NEW BUSINESS:

A. Burial of a Holden resident

Bonnie helped bury resident of Holden. The woman was homeless, but a resident of Holden. She was cremated and her remains were at the Brooking-Smith Funeral Home. Since we have 2 places in Hart's corner for cremations; Bonnie felt that because Marilyn McLaughlin had no known family in the area, it would be accepted by the BCT to place the woman's remains there. Because a decision had to be made quickly, Bonnie picked up the remains and helped bury this resident.

Bonnie's decision was approved and applauded by the BCT.

B. Article 3-3.2 Rules and Regulations:

A question was raised about burial after November 1. It is stated in this article that any burials after November 1 are done at the discretion of the Town Sexton. This was confirmed by the BCT.

5. OTHER BUSINESS:

A. Clewleyville dispute:

The dispute is on a boundary that needs to be defined. According to the deed, the Pagburns line does not reach the boundary line in question. Therefore, they have no claim to the land in dispute. Several meetings have been called with the Pagburns, but these meetings have been cancelled because there has been very little response from the Pagburns.

Ellen has been our main contact person and because of lack of response, we have tried to clear this dispute up in a friendly manner. Larry Varisco (town manager) contacted Foote & Temple, attorneys at law requesting an opinion regarding the manner in which a town cemetery may be statutorily enlarged. (a copy of this letter is filed with previous minutes)

It was proposed by the BCT to offer a sum of money in return for additional land and to establish a deadline for response from the Pagburns. If they do not come back with a counter offer or refuse to acknowledge our offer then the BCT along with the town manager and selectmen would have to decide how to proceed to end this dispute.

A motion was made to approach the Town Manager (Larry Varisco) and ask him to bring this proposal up before the Board of Selectmen. (MJP/HH)

B. Signs:

Bonnie and Mary Jane will go out and place markers where they feel the new cemetery signs would look best.

C. Stones:

The stones for "Negro boy" and "Indian" (engraved "male Indian") have been set.

- D. The cemetery records that Bonnie and Ellen have been working so hard on getting computerized are ready to go to the Town Office. Bonnie will contact Strom Shaw to get this accomplished!

Great work ladies!!!!!! Thanks for your time!

Information has been found in the Amherst vital statistics and the Veteran's list has been updated. Also the cemetery information will be sent to MOCA and the Augusta archives.

- E. (long range plans) Bonnie has long range plans and we love her for them! She keeps us motivated and busy! It is her dream (and wish) to have a Veteran's memorial plaque placed outside of the Town Office. There had been one a few years ago, but was wooden and rotted away.
- F. A letter was received from CL and JW Boothby regarding the picture in the Bangor Daily News showing the picture of the scouts putting the flags on the graves for the Fourth of July. The stone that was in the picture was an ancestor of Mrs. Boothby and she wanted to let us know how much she appreciated the flags being put on the graves to honor the veterans.

No other business was brought forward.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:15 p.m.

The next meeting is scheduled for **November 21, 2000** at 5:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Jane C. Black